

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4TH STREET, SUITE 500, LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



July 27, 2026

ENVR 20260700001

Andy Olson
Associate Planner
City of Santa Clarita
23920 Valencia Boulevard, Suite 302
Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Re: Belcaro at Sand Canyon Project SCH [2025061338](#)– Draft Environmental Impact Report (DIR)

Dear Andy Olson,

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) has jurisdiction over rail crossings (crossings) in California. The CPUC ensures that crossings are safely designed, constructed, and maintained. The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) is in receipt of the *Draft Environmental Impact Report (DIR)* for the Belcaro at Sand Canyon Project. The City of Santa Clarita (City) is the lead agency.

The City proposes to develop a residential community consisting of 341 detached single-family senior housing units, recreational amenities, and private and public open space as well as trail networks. This will be located south of Lost Canyon Road and east of Oak Springs Canyon Road, with two Metrolink railroad tracks bordering the northern edge of the project site. As part of the access to the site, the project will extend Lost Canyon Road as a private roadway and construct a [grade-separated private crossing underneath the Metrolink tracks at approximately milepost 41.7](#), currently proposed to consist of two 14-foot-wide travel lanes and a 12-foot-wide trail.

CPUC recommends that the project examine all open space, trail, roadway, and site boundaries to prevent any access to the railroad right-of-way through fencing and other preventative measures. This also includes along Lost Canyon Road leading up to and at the grade-separated crossing where fencing should be installed along the roadway and trail to prohibit any incursion into the railroad right-of-way and track areas. Additionally, lighting should be installed through the crossing to help illuminate the path. CPUC recommends the project coordinate with Metrolink early and consistently to ensure the crossing and construction confirm with Metrolink standards. CPUC also requests the project team notify the CPUC of major milestones, provide copies of any crossing plans including any new revisions, and submit a [Form G](#) when construction on the crossing is completed.

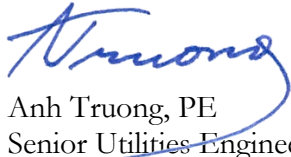
CPUC notes that the project is proposing Lost Canyon Road at the crossing as a private roadway and the crossing to be a private crossing. Private crossings do not require authorization from the CPUC, however, the project owner will need to work with SCRRA to establish an agreement for the private crossing. If the project decides to make the crossing public, any proposed public crossing will require authorization from the CPUC through a [formal application](#) and must also conform to the goals of the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan. This includes improving safety and access to transportation, improving local air quality and public health, and expanding outreach and public participation opportunities in disadvantaged communities. For more information, please visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/esjactionplan>.

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RCEB staff is available to discuss any potential safety impacts or concerns at the crossings and address any questions from the City.

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Le at (213) 999-9053, or richard.le@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anh Truong', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anh Truong, PE
Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor)
Rail Crossings Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc: State Clearinghouse, state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Maria Leible, Southern California Regional Rail Authority/Metrolink, leiblem@scrra.net
Jessica Cleavenger, SWCA Environmental Consultants, jessica.cleavenger@swca.com
Corey Harpole, New Urban West, Inc., corey@newurbanwest.com